

Dear Chairman,

Everyone supports the right of newspapers and other media to have an editorial opinion. However, that opinion must not be disguised as "news". Sinclair Broadcasting has repeatedly in the past presented slanted opinion and distorted "facts" as if it were news. This is not in the public interest and is in violation of the trust of the public airwaves. Please enforce rules that protect us from monolithic, self-serving demagoguery as avidly as you enforce the rules that protect us from excessive skin exposure.

Craig George

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Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.